

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2007. In the Office Action, the Examiner:

- rejected claims 2, 3, 5-7, 57, 63, and 67-79 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ludwig et al. (WO 95/10158) in view of Cezanne et al. (U.S. 5,473,701) and Andrea et al. (US 5,251,263).

After entry of this amendment, claims 2-3, 5-7, 57, 63, and 67-79 are pending.

Overview of Changes to the Claims

Claims 2-3, 6-7, 57, 63, 67-70, 72-75, and 77-78 have been amended to clarify the scope of the claim. Support for the amendments is found at least on page 22 of the Specification.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103(a)

In the present office action, the Examiner has rejected claims 2, 3, 5-7, 57, 63, and 67-79 as being unpatentable over Ludwig et al. in view of Cezanne et al. and Andrea et al. The rejected claims include independent claims 2, 68, and 72. The Applicant traverses and respectfully submits that the claims are patentable over Ludwig et al. in view of Cezanne et al. and Andrea et al.

As the Examiner is aware, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.¹ "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art."²

Ludwig et al. disclose a collaboration system that integrates separate real-time and asynchronous networks. As the Examiner states in the present office action, however, Ludwig et

¹ MPEP § 2143.03 citing *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974).

² MPEP § 2143.03 citing *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970).

al. does not teach or suggest synthetic aperture microphone processing.³ Accordingly, and despite Ludwig et al. disclosing that an echo-canceling system is bypassed when the handset or headset input is used⁴, Ludwig et al. *does not* and *cannot* teach “*selecting between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing” as taught in claims 2, 68 and 72.

Cezanne et al. disclose an adaptive microphone array. Cezanne et al. does not disclose adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations, and thus, Cezanne et al. *does not* and *cannot* teach “*selecting between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing” as taught in claims 2, 68 and 72.

Andrea et al. disclose a telephone handset with adaptive noise cancellation for use in noisy environments.⁵ Andrea et al. *does not* teach “*selecting between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing” as taught in claims 2, 68 and 72.

In order for a reference to disclose or suggest selecting between adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-cancelling operations and synthetic aperture microphone processing, the reference must teach both stereo and mono echo-cancelling operations, as well as synthetic aperture microphone processing. Neither Ludwig et al., Cezanne et al., or Andrea et al. teach both stereo and mono echo-cancelling operations, as well as synthetic aperture microphone processing. Therefore, Ludwig et al., Cezanne et al., Andrea et al., or their combination *do not* and *cannot* disclose or suggest:

(i) a device being “configured to *select between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing” as taught in independent claim 2;

(ii) “*selecting between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing” as taught in independent claim 68; or

³ Office Action mailed September 12, 2007, page 2.

⁴ Office Action mailed September 12, 2007, page 3.

⁵ Office Action mailed September 12, 2007, page 3.

(iii) a system "wherein the system *selects between* the adaptive acoustic stereo or mono echo-canceling operations and the synthetic aperture microphone processing" as taught in independent claim 72.

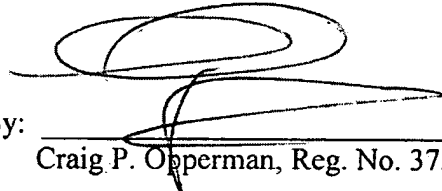
Because Ludwig et al., Cezanne et al., Andrea et al., and their combination fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations, independent claims 2, 68, and 72, as well as their associated dependent claims, are each patentable over Ludwig et al. in view of Cezanne et al. and Andrea et al. for at least this reason. Removal of this ground for rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this application with a view towards allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (650) 843-4000, if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

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